

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the first paragraph of the Description with the following paragraph.

This application is a division of U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/528,371, filed March 17, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,734,018, which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/327,240, filed Jun. 7, 1999, now abandoned. Both applications are hereby incorporated herein in their entirety.

130. (previously presented) The tissue graft of claim 121, wherein the tissue sample is cartilage.

131. (currently amended) An acellular tissue graft, comprising a soft tissue sample substantially free from cellular elements and calcium ion precipitated anionic ~~nonionic~~ detergent, produced by the process of claim 56 or claim 109, wherein recellularization of said acellular tissue graft *in vivo* or *in vitro* is retarded.

132. (previously presented) The tissue graft of claim 131, wherein the tissue sample is cartilage.

133. (new) The tissue graft of claim 121, wherein the graft comprises at least 1.0  $\mu$ mole calcium ion precipitated anionic detergent/mg wet weight of tissue.

134. (new) The tissue graft of claim 121, wherein the washed tissue comprises from about 0.1 wt% to about 10 wt% calcium ion precipitated anionic detergent.

135. (new) The tissue graft of claim 121, wherein the washed tissue comprises less than 20 wt% precipitated anionic detergent.

136. (new) The tissue graft of claim 121, wherein the washed tissue comprises from about 0.2 wt% to about 2.0 wt% precipitated anionic detergent.

137. (new) The process as in claim 56 or 109, wherein the washed tissue comprises at least 1.0  $\mu$ mole calcium ion precipitated anionic detergent/mg wet weight of tissue.

138. (new) The process as in claim 56 or 109, wherein the washed tissue comprises from about 0.1 wt% to about 10 wt% calcium ion precipitated anionic detergent.

139. (new) The process as in claim 56 or 109, wherein the washed tissue comprises less than 20 wt% precipitated anionic detergent.